

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended): A method comprising:

purchasing a recording medium with at least some space available for receiving works;

authorizing [[a]] the purchaser of [[a]] the recording medium to make copies of certain works onto the purchased recording medium only after the recording medium has been purchased; and

distributing a portion of the sale of the recording medium to registered entities associated with any certain works ~~that were copied~~,

wherein the certain works are not purchased before or after authorizing.

2. (Original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the recording medium includes computer disks, computer drives, digital video disks, computer floppy disks, memory cards, audio tapes, film, or paper.

3. (Original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the recording medium is selected from a list consisting of: computer disks, digital video disks, or paper.

4. (Original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the recording medium includes a written authorization.

5. (Original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the recording medium includes a unique identifier.

6. (Original): The method of Claim 5, wherein the identifier is stored electronically on the recording medium.

7. (Original): The method of Claim 6, further comprising:

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determining at a processor if the identifier is valid,
wherein authorizing a purchaser further includes authorizing a purchaser if the
identifier is determined valid.

8. (Original): The method of Claim 7, wherein authorizing purchasers further includes:
allowing purchasers to retrieve works from a database and store the retrieved works
onto the recording medium using a writing device in communication with the
database.

9. (Original): The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
receiving an identifier associated with a purchased recording medium;
receiving purchaser information; and
registering the purchaser associated with the received purchaser information for an
award if the received identifier is a valid identifier.

10. (Original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the registered entities include at least one of
an artist, an author, or a royalty organization.

11. (Original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the registered entities are selected from a list
consisting of: an artist, an author, and a royalty organization.

12. (Original): The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
distributing a portion of the sale of the recording medium to one or more charitable
organizations selected by one of users or artists/authors.

13. (Currently Amended): A system comprising:
a means for purchasing a recording medium with at least some space available for
receiving works;

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a means for authorizing [[a]] the purchaser of [[a]] the recording medium to make copies of certain works onto the purchased recording medium only after the recording medium has been purchased; and

a means for distributing a portion of the sale of the recording medium to registered entities associated with any certain works that were copied,
wherein the certain works are not purchased before or after authorization.

14. (Original): The system of Claim 13, wherein the recording medium includes computer disks, computer drives, digital video disks, computer floppy disks, memory cards, audio tapes, film, or paper.

15. (Original): The system of Claim 13, wherein the recording medium is selected from a list consisting of: computer disks, digital video disks, or paper.

16. (Original): The system of Claim 13, wherein the recording medium includes a written authorization.

17. (Original): The system of Claim 13, wherein the recording medium includes a unique identifier.

18. (Original): The system of Claim 17, wherein the identifier is stored electronically on the recording medium.

19. (Original): The system of Claim 18, further comprising:

a means for determining if the identifier is valid,

wherein the means for authorizing purchaser authorizes purchaser if the identifier is determined valid.

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20. (Original): The system of Claim 19, wherein the means for authorizing purchasers further includes:

a means for allowing purchasers to retrieve works from a database; and
a means for storing the retrieved works onto the recording medium using a writing device in communication with the database.

21. (Original): The system of Claim 13, further comprising:

a means for receiving a identifier associated with a purchased recording medium;
a means for receiving purchaser information; and
a means for registering the purchaser associated with the received purchaser information for an award if the received identifier is a valid identifier.

22. (Original): The system of Claim 13, wherein the registered entities include at least one of an artist, an author, or a royalty organization.

23. (Original): The system of Claim 13, wherein the registered entities are selected from a list consisting of:

an artist, an author, and a royalty organization.

24. (Currently Amended): A system comprising:

an authorizing authority configured to authorize a purchaser of a recording medium to make copies of certain works onto the purchased recording medium only after the recording medium has been purchased and distribute a portion of the sale of the recording medium to registered entities associated with any certain works that ~~were copied~~.

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25. (Original): The system of Claim 24, wherein the recording medium includes computer disks, computer drives, digital video disks, computer floppy disks, memory cards, audio tapes, film, or paper.

26. (Original): The system of Claim 24, wherein the recording medium is selected from a list consisting of:

computer disks, digital video disks, or paper.

27. (Original): The system of Claim 24, wherein the recording medium includes a written authorization.

28. (Original): The system of Claim 24, wherein the recording medium includes a unique identifier.

29. (Original): The system of Claim 28, wherein the identifier is stored electronically on the recording medium.

30. (Original): The system of Claim 29, wherein the authorizing authority comprises:

a data entry device configured to receive the identifier;

a memory configured to store approved identifier information; and

a processor in communication with the data entry device and the memory, the processor comprising:

a first component configured to determine if the identifier is one of the approved identifier based on the approved identifier information; and

a second component configured to instruct the purchaser having an approved identifier that they are authorized to make copies of works onto the blank medium.

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31. (Original): The system of Claim 30, wherein the authorizing authority further comprises a database for storing works of the registered entities, wherein the processor further comprises a third component configured to allow purchasers having an approved identifiers to copy works stored on the database to their blank medium.

32 (Original): The system of Claim 31, wherein the third component includes a network accessible, web page configured to provide access to the database.

33. (Original): The system of Claim 24, further comprising:

a processor in communication with a network, the processor comprising:

a first component configured to receive a unique identifier associated with a purchased recording medium from a purchaser using a computer device coupled to the network;

a second component configured to receive purchaser information;

a third component configured to determine if the identifier is valid; and

a fourth component configured to register the purchaser associated with the received purchaser information for an award if the received identifier is determined valid.

34. (Original): The system of Claim 24, wherein the registered entities include at least one of an artist, an author, or a royalty organization.

35. (Original): The system of Claim 24, wherein the registered entities are selected from a list consisting of:

an artist, an author, and a royalty organization.

36. (Currently Amended): A method comprising:

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distributing to one or more users, in exchange for a predefined amount of compensation, a recording medium upon which the one or more users are authorized to make copies of works capable of being copied onto the recording medium;

maintaining a database of registered entities associated with certain works; and

distributing a portion of the predefined amount of compensation ~~for the recording medium~~ to the registered entities associated with ~~any certain works that were copied~~.

37. (Currently Amended): A system comprising:

a means for distributing to one or more users, in exchange for a predefined amount of compensation, a recording medium upon which the one or more users are authorized to make copies of works capable of being copied onto the recording medium;

a means for maintaining a database of registered entities associated with certain works; and

a means for distributing a portion of the predefined amount of compensation ~~for the recording medium~~ to the registered entities ~~associated with any certain works that were copied~~.

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